

**OPINION:**

It is the belief of the Advisory Panels on Orthopedics, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Internal Medicine, Neurology and General Surgery that it is not acceptable medical practice. The use of DMSO for the purpose of relieving arthritis pain has not been approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Controlled studies have not yet been conducted which document the efficacy of using DMSO and delineate its toxicology.

**Esterene**

**QUESTION:**

*Is the use of Esterene recognized as an accepted medical practice in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis?*

**OPINION:**

In the opinion of Advisory Panels on Internal Medicine and Orthopedics, there is no scientific evidence to support the use of Esterene, which is derived from cocaine, for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis.

**Radioallergosorbent Test (RAST)**

**QUESTION:**

*Is the radioallergosorbent test (RAST) a recognized and effective allergy test?*

**OPINION:**

The Advisory Panels on Allergy, Internal Medicine, and Otolaryngology believe that the radioallergosorbent test (RAST) is a recognized and effective test. It is more expensive and less sensitive than direct skin testing. The majority of respondents think that RAST should be used for diagnosis in selected patients for whom skin testing is inappropriate or equivocal. Because of its expense, reasons for the use of RAST should be documented.

**Paper Radioimmunosorbent Test (PRIST)**

**QUESTION:**

*Is the paper radioimmunosorbent test (PRIST) a recognized and effective allergy test?*

**OPINION:**

In the opinion of the Advisory Panels on Allergy, Internal Medicine and Otolaryngology, the paper radioimmunosorbent test (PRIST) is a recognized and effective test for the determination of serum concentrations of IgE antibody and may be useful, together with other evidence, in the diagnosis of allergy. It should not be used routinely but rather in instances where there is some question about the diagnosis of allergy.

**Singer-Blom Valve**

**QUESTION:**

*Is it accepted medical practice to perform the Singer-Blom valve operation for rehabilitation of laryngectomy patients?*

**OPINION:**

The Advisory Panel on Otolaryngology is of the opinion that tracheoesophageal speech shunt procedures for vocal rehabilitation are accepted medical practice.

**Clinical Ecology**

**QUESTION:**

*What is "clinical ecology"? Is this a recognized medical specialty?*

**OPINION:**

It is the recommendation of the Advisory Panels on Allergy, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Preventive Medicine and Public Health and the Committee on Environmental Health, as well as the CMA Council, that "clinical ecology" is not a recognized medical specialty and does not have a single, standardized definition among medical practitioners.

**Cytotoxic Testing for Food Allergy**

**QUESTION:**

*Is cytotoxic testing for food allergy considered acceptable medical practice?*

**OPINION:**

It is the opinion of the Advisory Panel on Allergy that cytotoxic testing for food allergy has not been proved to be an effective or accepted medical practice and should be reserved for experimental use only.